[Mr. T. P. Velayudhan Pillai.]

(*a*) the years for which budget allotments were made for widening and improving the Chengannur (Moozhikal) Illimala canal and the amount allotted in each year ;

(*b*) the amount spent in each of such years ;

(*c*) if the whole or any part of the allotment had not been spent in any year, the reasons for the same ; and

(*d*) if the work had been provided for in one year but neither completed nor begun in that year and was unprovided for in the subsequent year, the reasons for the same ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : (*a*) to (*d*) No provision has been made for this work in any of the budgets till now.

Tariff value and market price of cocoanut.

134. ❋**MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN** (*Mavelikara*) : Will the Government be pleased to state the tariff value of cocoanuts for the levy of duty, and the average market value of cocoanuts, during the last three months (Karkatakam 1108 and Chingom and Kanni 1109) at Alleppey ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : Bh. Rs. 48 per thousand. The average market value of cocoanuts at Alleppey during the three months, Karkatakam 1108, and Chingom and Kanni 1109 is reported to have varied from Rs. 17 to Rs. 20 per thousand.

MR. A. S DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : May I know whether this disparity between the market price and the tariff value has been noticed by the Government ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : Yes.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : May I know whether any attempt has been made to bring down the tariff value to the market value ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The matter is under the consideration of Government.

MR A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : How long has it been under the consideration of Government ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : For some time past.

Tariff value of cocoanut products.

135. ❋**MR. M. N. NAIR** (*Kottayam I*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) what is the tariff value each of one candy (6 cwts) of copra and oil fixed by the Government for the purpose of levying export duty on them ;

(*b*) what is the average market price of copra and cocoanut oil for the year 1108 ; and

(*c*) the method adopted by Government in fixing the tariff values of articles like copra and cocoanut oil ?

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MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) (*a*) Bh. Rs. 96 and Bh. Rs. 72, respectively.

(*b*) It ranged per candy of copra between Bh. Rs. 47-4-0 and Bh. Rs. 79-2-0; and that of one candy (6 cwts) of oil between Bh. Rs. 68-13-0 and Bh. Rs. 113-8-0, during the year 1108.

(*c*) The tariff values of copra and cocoanut oil are fixed with due regard to their market values and also to the interests of the cocoanut oil industry in the State

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): May I know from the member whether the tariff value fixed is in the interests of the cocoanut owners?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The interest of the cocoanut oil industry is also taken into account in fixing the tariff value. The answer to part (*c*) itself says that the market value also is taken into account in fixing the tariff value.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): My question was whether the tariff value that has been fixed is in the interests of the cocoanut owners.

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The present tariff value was fixed in Karkatakam 1105. The market value has since been going down. The question of reducing the tariff value is under the consideration of Government. It is not possible to reduce the tariff value always in accordance with the variations in the market value. It can only be done from time to time after noticing the variations in the market value for some time.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): Is it not necessary to revise the tariff value because of the special circumstances under which the cocoanut owners are labouring?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): On account of the fall in the market value the question of reducing the tariff value is engaging the serious attention of Government.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know from the member whether the Government thinks it necessary that the question of reducing the tariff value ought to be decided early enough?

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): Sir, is it not a matter of opinion?

PRESIDENT: The official member has already stated that the matter is engaging the serious attention of Government.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): When was the tariff value last revised?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): I said it was revised in Karkatakam 1106.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): May I know from the member whether the tariff value or the market value is taken for statistical purposes?

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MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): We are now adopting the tariff value for statistical purposes.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): May I know from the member whether the figures relating to the balance of trade for 1107 are accurate?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): They cannot be quite accurate because the tariff value differs from the market value.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): May I know from the member the method followed by the British Indian Government in regard to this?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): I claim notice.

Persons trained in the Sri Mulam Technical School.

136. *MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) how many students have passed the Mechanical Fitter's Examination of the Sri Mulam Technical School, Trivandrum; and

(*b*) whether the students who have passed the examination are not to be appointed under the Director of Industries and in the P. W. D?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): (*a*) 37.

(*b*) They will be preferred for appointment if suitable vacancies arise.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know from the member whether any of them has applied for appointment in the Industrial Department or in the Public Works Department?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): In regard to the Industrial Department, there have been some applications.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether anybody has applied for appointment in the Public Works Department?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): I have no information, Sir.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): On a point of order. In the question it is definitely asked about the Public Works Department and can the Government put forward a member who cannot answer anything relating to the Public Works Department? In part (*b*) of the question, the Public Works Department is specifically mentioned and the Government member who is standing up and answering is ignorant about that department. Is it allowable?

PRESIDENT: He ought to be able to furnish that information.

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): Sir, I claim notice.

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